



# San Diego City Attorney **MICHAEL J. AGUIRRE**

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **COURT ORDERS NORTH PARK BAR OWNER TO SHUT DOWN AFTER NUMEROUS VIOLATIONS RELATED TO DRUG SALES *SAN DIEGO CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE PROSECUTES SLIP INN BAR OWNER***

**San Diego, CA:** The Slip Inn Bar is shut down after Superior Court Judge Charles Wickersham ordered a permanent injunction. The City Attorney's Office prosecuted the owner, Erling Danver Hanson, for maintaining a public nuisance by permitting narcotic activity to occur on the property. As part of an ongoing effort between the San Diego Police Department and the City Attorney's Office to crack down on problem bars and nightclubs.

The case was filed as a result of the joint efforts by City Attorney Drug Abatement Response Team (DART) prosecutors, the San Diego Police Department's Narcotics Unit and the California State Department of Alcohol Beverage Control (ABC). The Permanent Injunction was the culmination of a five-month long undercover narcotics operation conducted by San Diego Police narcotic detectives and an ABC investigator. The operation began in October 2004 and ended in February 2005 with the arrest of almost a dozen individuals including patrons and a bartender of the Slip Inn for facilitation and sales of narcotics inside the establishment.

"The Slip Inn has been a well-known hangout for transients and parolees who were often linked to crimes and other problems in the surrounding community. By shutting down the bar, we provide significantly less opportunity for drug users, dealers and other criminals to congregate and conspire with each other to engage in crimes," said Chief of Police William Lansdowne.

Earlier this year, DART prosecutors obtained a Permanent Injunction against a Pacific Beach nightclub for chronic public nuisance problems resulting from routine over-service of alcohol to its patrons.

"We simply will not tolerate business operations which condone or allow drug and other illegal activity to occur on their premises. Like everyone else, businesses in San Diego have a moral and legal obligation to be good neighbors and corporate citizens," said City Attorney Michael J. Aguirre.

The partnership between the San Diego Police Department and San Diego City Attorney's DART prosecution unit has evolved to better serve the San Diego community by comprehensively addressing gang violence, drugs, and prostitution enforcement, as well as alcohol related violations of business establishments.

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